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OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

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**PUBLIC
DOCUMENT**

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI) FY04 Project Nomination

FROM: Pat Carey *Pat Carey*
Community Involvement and Outreach Center (CIOC)

TO: Sharon Beard, Industrial Hygienist
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

This memorandum transmits the Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI) project nomination for FY04. The attached write-up for the Vasquez 170 Site was prepared by our region 8 office. This nomination package, includes the names of existing programs located near our proposed site nomination that we hope will promote possible job training partnerships between those programs and SuperJTI. We are hopeful the NIEHS worker training awardees will support this project in FY 04.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (703) 603-8772.

Attachments

cc: Joseph Hughes, NIEHS
Betsy Southerland, OERR
Suzanne Wells, CIOC
Regional CI Managers
David Lopez, OERR 3/8 Center
Myra Blakely, OSPA

**FY 04 Nomination
Region 8 SuperJTI
Vasquez Blvd. / Interstate 70 Site
Denver, Colorado**

The northeast Denver communities proposed for the Superfund Job Training Initiative FY04 Project (Super JTI) provide fertile ground for the Initiative's job opportunities. The Superfund Site lies within an Environmental Justice area that contains a large population of minority and low income residents. The neighborhood has been crippled by an abundance of polluting industries, multiple highways and several Superfund Sites as well as some of the highest unemployment rates and lowest educational levels in the City of Denver. The SuperJTI could provide needed job training and employment opportunities to this population.

Site Name and Location

The Vasquez Boulevard/ Interstate 70 (VB/I70) Superfund site includes the Elyria, Swansea, Cole, and Clayton neighborhoods of northeast Denver, Colorado and a small portion of the Globeville neighborhood.

CIC - Jennifer Chergo (303) 312 - 6601
Patricia Courtney (303) 312 - 6631
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Site Description and Status

The VB/I-70 Site includes approximately 4000 residential yards as well as two historic smelter sites. These historic smelting operations triggered concern about increased levels of metals in area yards. EPA conducted a large scale sampling effort in 1998, which defined the boundaries of the site and focused attention on lead and arsenic as the only metals of concern. In the fall of 2000, EPA completed a removal action that addressed 48 yards that contained the highest levels of contamination.

On March 6, 2003 Region 8 signed an Action Memorandum for a second removal action at the VB/I-70 Site. This removal action will address lead and arsenic contamination at approximately 100 residences. The Region hopes to conduct this removal action during the summer and fall of 2003.

In May, 2003, EPA issued a Proposed Plan for addressing the remainder of the residential soils at the Site. The preferred alternative includes a combination of three actions: 1) soil sampling program for properties not yet sampled; 2) soil removal, off-site disposal, and replacement of soil at all properties with arsenic greater than 70 parts per million (ppm) and lead greater than 400 ppm; 3) community health program. Under this alternative, EPA will remove and dispose of soils from over 800 residential properties. The Region anticipates beginning the remedial action in 2004.

Relevant Community Needs

The citizens of northeast Denver live in a highly industrialized area that is fragmented by three major transportation corridors. According to the EPA's databases, Nearly 500 regulated facilities reside in the northeast Denver Area. Local trucking companies house nearly 5000 diesel trucks in the area. At least two National Priorities List sites, in addition to the VB/I-70 Site, lie within this area. Sixteen percent of children tested in the area show elevated blood lead levels. As such, northeast Denver residents constitute the first line of contact with the pollutants that derive from industrial facilities, commercial land uses, old housing stock and traffic.

According to the 2000 Census, 17,542 people reside in the three census tracts that are completely contained within the VB/I-70 Site. Over 90% of the population are minorities. Nearly 25% of families live below the poverty level; that number rises to nearly 31% for families with children under 18 years of age. Children under the age of 18 comprise nearly 35% of the population in these three census tracts. Nearly 55% of the population has less than a high school education. These neighborhoods experienced unemployment of 7.7% in 1999, as compared to 2.4% for the Denver metropolitan area. One would expect that 2003 unemployment rates in northeast Denver would remain significantly higher than Denver's current 6.1%. Only 11% of the population of this area were employed in the professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services category during the 2000 census.

Clearly, the residents residing in the VB/I-70 Site boundaries have a need for job training. In 1999 this area was included in a pilot project for the Super JTI program. While progress was made during that pilot, the need remains as evidenced by numerous requests from community groups and neighborhood associations. These groups have expressed a need for workforce training beyond the specific skills training normally included in jobs programs. They have requested additional training on communication and other interpersonal skills necessary to maintain long term relationships with employers and to properly interact in business environments. Residents have also requested job training relating to health education and investigative efforts relating to lead paint.

Potential Community Partners

Region 8's Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice has focused a considerable amount of attention on this area. The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice named the Northeast Denver Environmental Initiative (NDEI) one of 15 national Revitalization Projects. NDEI has been building partnerships in northeast Denver for several years. Several community groups have agreed to partner with Region 8 on the Revitalization project, including Cross-Community Coalition, COPEEN, Cole Neighborhood Association, Clayton Neighborhood Association, Northeast Denver Housing Center, Northeast Metro Industrial Council, and Northeast Metro Pollution Prevention Alliance. During the 1999 project COPEEN partnered with EPA to implement the Super JTI program. Other potential community partners include the Elyria/Swansea Community Economic Development

Corporation, Denver Urban Renewal Authority, Groundwork Denver, and Front Range Earth Force.

Existing Job Training Programs

COPEEN, Cross-Community Coalition and Youth Biz offer job training programs as funding allows. Community College of Denver, Red Rocks Community College and Emily Griffiths Opportunity School offer job training programs. In addition, the Colorado Office of Economic Development and the Mayors Office of Economic Development both offer job training programs. In 1999, the Super JTI program worked with the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW), which is headquartered in Denver, to provide training.

Types of Potential Jobs

The Superfund Site cleanup will provide a variety of jobs over the next several years. These jobs range from heavy equipment operation during the removal and transport of contaminated soils, landscaping jobs in replacing the yards, field technicians to conduct sampling activities, health care workers and educators for the community health program, and translators to assist with all of these activities. In addition to the Superfund related jobs, lead, asbestos and mold investigators and abatement workers are needed in the area. These neighborhoods are some of the oldest in Denver. As such, they often have issues with lead paint, asbestos and/or mold. Northeast Denver Housing Center (NDHC), one of EPA's partners' for the Revitalization project, specializes in investigating and remediating lead paint, asbestos and mold issues in residences in the greater northeast Denver community. NDHC works with Denver Urban Renewal Authority (DURA) to implement these remediations with funding from the HUD.

Community Contacts:

- Lorraine Granado, Cross-Community Coalition - 303.292.3202
- Amanda Champany, COPEEN - 303.292.1236
- Sandy Douglas, Cole Neighborhood Association - 303.297.8653
- Beverly Lumumba, Clayton Neighborhood Association - 303.377.6629
- Wendy Hawthorne, Northeast Denver Housing Center - 303.377.3334
- Dennis Creamer, Northeast Metro Industrial Council and Northeast Metro Pollution Prevention Alliance - 303.286.5711
- Claire Monash, Elyria/Swansea Community Economic Development Corporation - 303.295.7575
- Fred Yeazel, Denver Urban Renewal Authority - 303.534.3872
- Harry Ford, Groundwork Denver - 303.433.2956
- Lisa Bardwell, Front Range Earth Force - 303.433.3014

Brownfields Job Training Pilots

Check website for additional information
<http://www.epa.gov/swerosos/bf/jlocat.htm>

REGION 1

Connecticut

Middlesex Community College, (City of Middletown, Town of Haddam), CT
City of Stamford, CT
The Workplace Inc., Bridgeport, CT

Massachusetts

Boston Connects People to Economic Opportunity, Inc., Boston, MA
City of Brockton, MA
Jobs for Youth (Boston, Lynn and Somerville), MA
New Bedford, MA
STRIVE-Boston Employment Service, Inc. (Chelsea, New York), MA

Rhode Island

Groundwork Providence, Inc., Rhode Island

REGION 2

New Jersey

New Jersey Youth Corps (Camden and Newark), NJ
New Jersey Youth Corps (Phillipsburg, Middlesex Co.), NJ

New York

St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation, Brooklyn, NY
State University of NY - Buffalo, NY
Troy Rehabilitation and Improvement Program, Inc., Troy, NY

Puerto Rico

Universidad Metropolitana, PR

REGION 3

Delaware

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Wilmington, DE

District of Columbia

DC Department of Health,
Washington, DC

Maryland

Civic Works, Baltimore, MD

Pennsylvania

Bucks County Community College, PA
Carnegie Mellon Univ, (Pittsburgh, Central City Borough), PA
Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition (Del. Co., Mont. Co.,) Philadelphia, PA
Impact Services Corporation, Philadelphia, PA

REGION 4

Florida

Career Options of Pinellas, Inc., Clearwater, FL
Miami-Dade Community College, Miami, FL

North Carolina

City of Winston-Salem, NC

South Carolina

Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Charleston, SC
Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Greenville, SC

REGION 5

Illinois

The Office of Applied Innovations, Riverdale, IL
St. Louis Community College (St. Louis and East St. Louis), IL & MO

Indiana

City of Gary, IN

Michigan

City of Flint, MI

Minnesota

Hennepin County, MN

Ohio

City of Cincinnati, OH
City of Hamilton, OH
City of Toledo, OH

Wisconsin

Milwaukee Community Service Corps, Milwaukee, WI

REGION 6

New Mexico

Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department, NM

Louisiana

City of Shreveport, LA

Texas

Houston Community College System, Southeast College, TX

Texas A&M University Extension Service, Dallas, TX

REGION 7

Iowa

Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA

Western Iowa Tech

Community College, Sioux City, IA

Missouri

Metropolitan Community Colleges Kansas City, MO

Mineral Area College, MO

St. Louis Community College (St. Louis and East St. Louis), MO & IL

REGION 8

Colorado

National Association of Black Environmentalists (Denver City/County, Sand Creek Corridor), CO

Montana

Montana Tech of the University of Montana, Butte, MT

North Dakota

Spirit Lake Nation, ND

Turtle Mountain Community College (Turtle Mt. Band of Chippewa), ND

REGION 9

California

City of Long Beach, CA

City of Los Angeles, CA

Oakland Private Industry Council, Oakland, CA

Richmond Employment and Training Department, Richmond, CA

Young Community Developers, Inc., San Francisco, CA

REGION 10

Washington

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Nespelem, WA

King County Office of Regional Policy and Planning, WA

City Tacoma, WA

2002 Superfund Redevelopment Initiative Pilot Snapshots

Check website for more information:

http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/pilot/02_pilots.htm

Region 1

- ▶ *New Hampshire*
Plaistow, NH (Beede Waste Oil Superfund Site)
- ▶ *Rhode Island*
Cumberland and Lincoln, RI (Peterson/Puritan, Inc., Superfund Site)

Region 4

- ▶ *Alabama*
Headland, AL (American Brass Inc., Superfund Site)
Montgomery, AL (Capitol City Plume Site)
- ▶ *Florida*
Pensacola, FL (American Creosote Works)
- ▶ *Georgia*
Camilla, GA (Camilla Wood Treating Superfund Site)
Ft. Valley, GA (Woolfolk Chemical Superfund Site)

Region 5

- ▶ *Illinois*
Antioch, IL (HOD Landfill Superfund Site)
DePue, IL (New Jersey Zinc Superfund Site)
- ▶ *Indiana*
Elkhart, IN (Himco Dump Superfund Site)
Gary, IN (Lake Sandy Joe Superfund Site / MIDCO 1 & 2 / Ninth Avenue Dump)
- ▶ *Michigan*
St. Louis, MI (Velsicol Chemical Corporation Superfund Site)
- ▶ *Ohio*
South Point, OH (South Point Plant Superfund Site)

Region 6

- ▶ *Arkansas*
Jacksonville, AK (Vertac, Inc., Superfund Site)
- ▶ *Oklahoma*
Oklahoma City, OK
- ▶ *Texas*
Belton, TX (Rockwool Industries, Inc., Superfund Site)

Region 7

- ▶ Montana
Milltown, MT (Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site)

Region 8

- ▶ Leadville, CO (California Gulch Superfund Site)

Region 10

- ▶ *Washington*
Bainbridge Island, WA (Wyckoff Co./Eagle harbor Superfund Site)